



Magnesium Elektron, Inc.

Creating the Future of Zirconium Chemicals

RECEIVED
4/19/02

500 Point Breeze Road
Flemington, NJ 08822-9111
Tel: (908) 782-5800
Fax: (908) 782-7768

November 16, 2002

Seth Ausubel
U.S. EPA – Remedial Project Manager
REGION II
Emergency & Remedial Response Division
290 Broadway, 19th floor
New York, New York 10007-1866

via UPS – Next Day

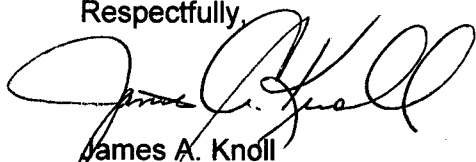
Subject : Magnesium Elektron, Inc. / MELBERK CERCLA – BERRY's CREEK Superfund Issues

Dear Mr. Ausubel,

As per your request, I am responding to your request for information with regards to the MELBERK – Berry's Creek Superfund project.

Should you have further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me at (908) 782-5800 ext 1133.

Respectfully,



James A. Knoll
Sales Mgr., - MEI

cc : Clay Monroe
Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
290 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, New York 10007-1866

437895



Request for Information – RESPONSE 11/16/02

REGARDING: the Berry's Creek Study Area, Bergen County, NJ - Magnesium Elektron, Inc.

1.
 - a. Legal Name: Magnesium Elektron, Inc.
500 Point Breeze Rd.
Flemington, NJ 08822
 - b. Legal Status: A legal corporation registered in the State of New Jersey (as of October 10, 1955)
 - c. President/CEO – William B. Fee
 - d. Wholly Owned Subsidiary of: Luxfer Group Co.
Salford Quays, England
President/CEO: Brian Purves
 - e. State & Date of Incorporation: MELBERK - June 21, 1951, Agent – Malcolm McAllister
Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation – October 10, 1955 – Changed name from MELBERK to Magnesium Elektron, Inc.
 - f. NONE
2. Magnesium Elektron, Inc. formed a joint venture with F.W.Berk (MELBERK) in June, 1951. The joint venture was to develop and introduce zirconium chemicals to the Wood Ridge, NJ site. No other details available
3. Magnesium Elektron, Inc. manufactures zirconium sulfates, zirconium carbonate, and other acid and base zirconium compounds. The manufacturing process involves the refining of Zirconium Silicate (Zircon) with concentrated mineral acids (Hydrochloric and Sulfuric Acids) to form zirconium salts.
4. Joint venture with FW Berk and Magnesium Elektron, Inc. from period June, 1951 – October, 1955
5. No Information Available
6. Magnesium Elektron, Inc. and F.W. Berk formed a joint venture, MELBERK, Inc., for the development and manufacturing of Zirconium Chemicals in June of 1951. The introduction of Zirconium Chemicals to the Wood Ridge, N.J. facility was expected to compliment the existing on-site mercurial compounds manufacturing operations of F.W. Berk. In addition to the zirconium chemicals development efforts at the site, a license agreement between Magnesium Elektron Limited and MELBERK was executed in March, 1953 for the manufacturing of the following compounds at the Wood Ridge, N.J. site :
 - magnesium and magnesium alloys.
 - magnesium fluxes.
 - Welding fluxes

- Thorium containing materials
 - Zirconium and Thorium containing materials
 - zirconium/magnesium alloys.
 - magnesium alloying with both zirconium and thorium metals.
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- magnesium and magnesium alloys.
- magnesium fluxes.
- zirconium/magnesium alloys.

The zirconium chemicals development efforts "failed" at the Wood Ridge site and in October, 1955, MELBERK ceased operating at the Wood Ridge, N.J. location. Magnesium Elektron, Inc. continued as a zirconium chemical distributor from offices in Jersey City, N.J. with warehouse activities in Secaucus, N.J. until acquiring the Flemington, NJ location.

9. The zirconium chemicals development efforts "failed" at the Wood Ridge site and in October, 1955, MELBERK ceased operating at the Wood Ridge, N.J. location. Magnesium Elektron, Inc. continued as a zirconium chemical distributor from offices in Jersey City, N.J. with warehouse activities in Secaucus, N.J. until acquiring the Flemington, NJ location.
10. No specific information available, however, storage and disposal practices would be relate to Light Metal Processing (magnesium and magnesium alloys), Zirconium Containing Alloys, Production of Zirconium Salts.
11. No Information Available.
12. No specific information available, however, storage and disposal practices would be related to Light Metal Processing (magnesium and magnesium alloys), Zirconium Containing Alloys, Production of Zirconium Salts.
13. No specific information available. However they would only be associated with the Wood Ridge, NJ site between the period June, 1951 to Oct., 1955.

14. No information available
15. Only Available Contact From MELBERK Operation:
Frank Sheara, Retired
38 Peach Tree Lane
Little Silver, NJ 07739
(908) 224-0731
16. No information available regarding leaks, spills or releases to the environment over the period June, 1951 to October, 1955.
17. See Attached Completed Form (pg.5)
18. No information Available
19. No Information Available
20. No Information Available
21. Frank Sheara, Retired
38 Peach Tree Lane
Little Silver, NJ 07739
(908) 224-0731
Assisted in Questions: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20.
James A. Knoll, Sales Mgr,
Magnesium Elektron, Inc.
500 Point Breeze Rd.
Flemington, NJ 08822
Answered Questions: 1 a-f
22. Minute Books (2) of the Board of Directors of MELBERK from September, 1951 through October, 1955 utilized to define dates of Incorporation and details of license agreements.

Request for Information Regarding Chemical Releases to the Berry's Creek Study Area

* * *

Instructions: As instructed in Question 17, please complete this form by marking the appropriate spaces. Indicate whether each of the chemicals listed has ever been released from the Site to the Berry's Creek Study Area, including creeks, ditches, or other water bodies, or wetlands. Follow additional instructions below. Return the completed form along with your other responses to the Request for Information in the Matter of the Berry's Creek Study Area, Bergen County, New Jersey. N/A signifies no information available.

	Yes	No	N/A
acenaphthene			X
acenaphthylene			X
anthracene			X
aluminum			X
antimony			X
arsenic			X
benz(a)anthracene			X
benzene			X
benzo(a)pyrene			X
benzo(b)fluoranthene			X
benzo(g,h,i)perylene			X
benzo(k)fluoranthene			X
bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate			X
butyl benzyl phthalate			X
cadmium			X
chlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (if "yes", please list specific dioxin compounds on a separate sheet)			X
chlorinated dibenzofurans (if "yes", please list specific compounds on a separate sheet)			X
chlorobenzene			X
chloroform			X
chromium			X
chrysene			X
copper			X
cyanide			X
dibenz(a,h)anthracene			X
dichlorobenzene			X
1,2-dichloroethene			X
di-n-butyl phthalate			X
1,2-dichlorobenzene			X
1,2-dichloroethane			X
dieldrin			X
di-n-octyl phthalate			X
ethylbenzene			X
fluoranthene			X

	Yes	No	N/A
fluorene			X
hexachlorobenzene			X
indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene			X
lead			X
manganese			X
mercury			X
methylene chloride			X
methyl ethyl ketone			X
methyl mercury			X
2-methylnaphthalene			X
naphthalene			X
nickel			X
pentachlorophenol			X
petroleum hydrocarbons			X
phenanthrene			X
phenol			X
polychlorinated biphenyls (if "yes" please list specific congeners and aroclors on a separate sheet)			X
polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (if "yes", please list specific compounds on a separate sheet, if not listed on this page)			X
pyrene			X
selenium			X
silver			X
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane			X
tetrachloroethylene			X
thallium			X
toluene			X
1,2-trans dichloroethylene			X
1,1,1-trichloroethane			X
trichloroethylene			X
vinyl chloride			X
xylene			X
zinc			X

James A. Knoll
Name of person completing form

Magnesium Elektron, Inc.
Company

Wood-Ridge Site
Site (as defined in the "Instructions")

CERTIFICATION OF ANSWERS TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

State of

New Jersey

County of

Hunterdon

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document (response to EPA Request for Information) and all documents submitted herewith, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete, and that all documents submitted herewith are complete and authentic unless otherwise indicated. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. I am also aware that my company is under a continuing obligation to supplement its response to EPA's Request for Information if any additional information relevant to the matters addressed in EPA's Request for Information or the company's response thereto should become known or available to the company.

James A. Kroll

NAME (print or type)

Mgr. Sales

TITLE (print or type)

[Signature]

SIGNATURE

Sworn to before me this

day of

[Signature]

Notary Public

JOHN N. FESS
Notary Public of New Jersey
My Commission Expires July 9, 2009